

States Capitol, cannot be told without fully and accurately reflecting the contributions of enslaved African-Americans. According to the History of Slave Laborers in the Construction of the United States Capitol report, there is documentation that slave labor was employed from 1795 to 1801 for the construction of this building. African American slaves participated in almost every aspect of construction of the U.S. Capitol, completing such tasks as removing tress, quarrying stone, painting, and roofing. Evidence of their work can be seen in the columns of Statuary Hall and the Old Senate Chamber. Their story is a story that must be told for it is our collective story, the great American story.

After nearly 200 years, it is time for America to acknowledge these individuals who contributed to one of our nation's symbols of freedom while never having the opportunity to experience it themselves. Constructing a historical marker that includes the original stone used to build the Capitol is an outstanding tribute to African American slaves that will teach all who visit the Capitol of our nation's past as well as her future.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and recognizing the work of enslaved African Americans in the building of the U.S. Capitol by voting in support of this important resolution.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding congressionally directed appropriation projects I sponsored as part of H.R. 2997, FY 2010 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture RE/FA

Amount: \$1,730,000

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

The Cotton Production and Research Center is a multidisciplinary cotton research program for the Southwest cotton production region that serves as a market and policy analysis program for natural fibers. The research focuses on maximizing efficiency for regional and U.S. cotton production, marketing and trade. Overall, the project goals are to: develop new information and technologies, increase cotton and textile production, reduce costs, improve market efficiency, increase exports, and improve the U.S. textile industry's global competitiveness.

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture RE/FA

Amount: \$946,000

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

The International Center for Food Industry Excellence proposes to build upon the expertise available at Texas Tech University and its collaborating institutions. Center-affiliated researchers will develop and evaluate food innovations that improve the security, safety, functional properties, nutritional quality, eating

quality, and consumer acceptance and production characteristics of food available to U.S. consumers. Center scientists engage in innovative research across the farm-to-table continuum to improve food safety, expand uses for existing commodities and identify consumer behaviors and attributes that influence food acceptability and marketability.

Agency/Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture SRG

Amount: \$515,000

Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, Lubbock, TX 79409

The Great Plains Sorghum Improvement and Utilization Center will build on the Kansas Sorghum Improvement Center, initiated in 2001, by pooling and integrating the research and extension resources for sorghum improvement, utilization, production and marketing located at Kansas State University, Texas Tech University, and Texas A&M University (including USDA-ARS scientists located on those campuses with assigned sorghum responsibilities). Efforts among the three institutions will be integrated to bring new technologies and knowledge together and focus on improvement of profitability in each stage of sorghum production, processing, and marketing.

CONGRATULATING VEVAY, INDIANA

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on April 15th, CBS's Early Show announced Budget Travel Magazine's Top 10 "America's Coolest Small Towns", ranking Vevay, Indiana, Number 4. I would like to give my heartfelt congratulations to the Vevay community and all of Switzerland County.

Vevay was selected based on the "quality of life, arts and restaurant scenes and proximity to nature" of the town. The Swiss Wine Festival, events such as First Fridays and Second Saturdays, art galleries, and local restaurants all contributed to receiving this honor. Close to 8,000 people voted for Vevay.

As Vevay's representative in Congress, I can certainly attest to its merit in winning this award. I always enjoy visiting Vevay, and while biased, think it should have been ranked Number 1!

Again, congratulations to the residents of Vevay. This distinction is much deserved, and I am proud to represent you in the Ninth District.

REMEMBERING MICHAEL JACKSON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a consummate performer, Michael Jackson, a man whose music bridged racial and generational divides, whose generous charity combated global poverty, whose kind and gentle spirit endeared him to millions. Thousands of people gathered outside the historic Apollo Theatre in my district last week,

standing for hours to enter an at-times raucous, at-times somber memorial to the late singer. Along with Rev. Al Sharpton, film director Spike Lee, and Apollo President and CEO Jonelle Procope, I joined a packed crowd of Jackson fans on the very stage he began his career in 1967, winning the Apollo's Amateur Night contest with his four brothers, the Jackson Five. We were there because his singing and dancing remain unmatched. We were there because he was as much an institution in our community as the legendary theatre we sat in. We were there because, all over this world, his love and warmth should and will be maintained.

As a young boy who dreamt big and often, Michael Jackson sustained a decades-long career he began as a child in Gary, Indiana. He is a testament to young people everywhere that dreams are worth pursuing—regardless of their size or scope. In this America, all great things are possible. He grew up before us all, adapting his style to match each passing decade and leaving a series of catchy, easily recognizable hits along the way. Jackson's music captured our imagination and never let go. His records are gifts he has left us and our posterity as remnants of a time that will live on in American history.

As a person of color, who came to be highly regarded by Americans of all colors, he opened the door for other minorities to dare to achieve big. His music and dance moves were welcomed into living rooms across the country, without regard to his race. It was a harbinger of great things to come—Tiger Woods remains the best athlete in a sport not known for its diversity, the Top 40 Billboard charts feature a mix of Black and White musicians alike, and last January, we inaugurated this country's first African American President. His legacy eclipses its impact on the recording industry, the entertainment business, or even Hollywood—his life taught us an important lesson about race, about hard work, and about ourselves.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2847 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requested by Rep. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Bill number: H.R. 2487

Account: Department of Justice, Byrne Discretionary Grants

Amount: \$500,000

Project: Human Trafficking Initiative

Requested by: St. Thomas University.
16401 NW 37th Avenue Miami Gardens, FL 33054

St. Thomas University seeks support for an initiative that will provide essential educational and training services to law enforcement, immigration services, government employees directly involved with service providing to trafficking victims, as well as to private organizations and individuals as well as to generate

awareness of this growing problem in the general public. The School of Law is committed to human rights dedicated to training the next generation of human rights leaders and advocates through its LL.M. and J.S.D. Programs in Intercultural Human Rights, and through the direct services of the Human Rights Institute.

A three-week winter academy is proposed to be held annually on the STU campus. It will include lectures and training on practical issues (such as how to identify victims of human trafficking, how to collect data on human trafficking, how to diversify treatment of victims for different cultures, laws and relief services available, etc.) simulating different agency work governmental and non-governmental, with potential visits to pertinent agencies to gain hands on experience. The participants interested in receiving a certificate on human trafficking will sit for a final exam. In order to increase the community outreach goal of the program, a free lecture open to the public at large, will be offered that will focus on the local human trafficking problem. The last segment of the academy will be a mini-conference where local and/or national voices, and the best experts in the field will be featured.

Requested by Rep. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Bill number: H.R. 2487

Account: Department of Justice, Byrne Discretionary Grants
Amount: \$500,000

Project: City of Miami Beach Afterschool Gang and Drug Prevention Program

Requested by: City of Miami Beach. 1700 Convention Center Drive Miami Beach, FL 33139

The primary goal of the Teen Club is to prevent and reduce delinquent behavior and keep the community's at-risk youth in a positive environment to foster personal growth and encourage teens to become well-rounded individuals through the accumulation of new skills, awareness, and knowledge. Moreover, the program's aim is to promote health relationships that facilitate social skill development, decrease teen substance and alcohol abuse, and increase quality programming offerings that appeal to teenage youth. As a result, the participants involved in the Teen Club are less likely to entertain outside and detrimental participation in other unsupervised activities, including involvement in gangs and/or drugs. Current enrollment figures demonstrate more participants return for subsequent years in the program.

Requested by Rep. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Bill number: H.R. 2487

Account: Department of Justice, Juvenile Justice

Amount: \$500,000

Project: ARISE Life-Management Skills Intervention/Re-entry Program for High Risk Youth

Requested by: The ARISE Foundation. 824 US Hwy 1 North Palm Beach, FL 33408

ARISE serves approximately facilities in all 23 Florida congressional districts, including the Miami Dade Juvenile Detention Center in Miami. Over 156,618 hours of Life-Skills lessons have been taught at this facility. A recent study by Professor Mark A. Cohen, Vanderbilt University, December 2007, demonstrates why it is so important to target high-risk youth. Year by Year Costs Imposed by High Risk Offenders Cohen shows that the cost of one offender with at least six police contacts from

childhood to age 32 totals \$3,172,998 in 2007 dollars. In other words, saving one child saves taxpayers more than 3 million. By comparison, the ARISE program costs \$1.70 per hour per youth. Stopping the cycle of crime and gang violence by helping this population learn the skills necessary to succeed in life is an investment in our children and in our communities, with the potential to save millions of dollars tomorrow.

Requested by Rep. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Bill number: H.R. 2487

Account: Department of Justice, Juvenile Justice

Amount: \$200,000

Project: At-Risk Youth and Child Abuse Prevention Program

Requested by: Ohel Children's Home and Family Services. 4233 Sheridan Road Miami Beach, FL 33140.

This program engages at-risk youth in elementary and high schools to enhance their social and emotional functioning, as well as prevent and treat risky behaviors, including those that often lead to addictions and violence. The program includes school-based services, community education, and teacher training. The programs interact with student and include the use of role playing, small discussion groups, videos and modeling exercises that use current topics of discussion. Training is provided for teachers, guidance counselors and principals, and workshops for parents emphasize communication with children. Through community seminars, Ohel offers public forums for parents, educators, and community leaders on topics including self esteem, conflict resolution (bullying, anger management, etc.), relationship building (social skills training, peer pressure, etc.), and prevention of at-risk behaviors such as addictions, eating disorders, gambling and abuse. This program is a valuable use of taxpayer funds in that it prevents at-risk behaviors from spiraling into juvenile delinquency. In addition, the program assists children who are the victims of abuse or who are confronted with challenging circumstances in their lives so that these experiences do not lead to ongoing, destructive behavior. Further, the program benefits the federal government by putting at-risk kids back on a successful track and thus saving significant federal expenditures by keeping them out of the juvenile justice system.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT STEPHENSON, MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Robert Stephenson on his selection as Michigan's 2009–2010 Teacher of the Year.

Over his 15-year teaching career, Robert Stephenson has helped to inspire and enlighten students across Mid-Michigan. Stephenson, a third grade teacher at Wardcliff Elementary School in East Lansing, was selected from 20 regional finalists statewide. The award recognizes excellence in teaching and aims to provide teachers with the opportunity to interact with policymakers, provide a public

voice for educators, and focus public attention on the importance of teachers.

Using a hands-on approach, Stephenson's classroom activities engage students at a higher intellectual level. He is a role model to all his students and colleagues as he uses new and innovative teaching techniques to provide students a better learning experience.

Stephenson joins a unique class of teachers from Mid-Michigan. He is the fifth teacher from Mid-Michigan to receive this award in the last 29 years, and the fourth from Michigan's Eighth district in the last 10 years.

Madam Speaker, education is the cornerstone of our future and great teachers lay the foundation for our communities. I wish to extend my gratitude to Robert Stephenson for his many years of service to the students in Michigan. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Stephenson for his years of dedication to teaching and his recent selection as Michigan's Teacher of the Year.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure and certification information for one project authorization request that I made and which was included within the text of H.R. 2647—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010.

Project: High Density Power Conversion and Distribution Equipment

Project Amount: \$5 million

Account: Research and Development—Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: L-3 Westwood Corporation

Address of Requesting Entity: 12402 East 60th Street Tulsa, OK 74146.

Description of Request: Navy power switchboard technology has remained essentially the same for nearly 50 years. This technology is passed largely on past Navy applications (with lower power needs) and commercial practices (which are less volume and weight sensitive). The Navy's power needs (e.g., sensors, weapons, house loads) have escalated and the newest power architecture designs have added additional concerns (e.g., higher frequencies), but the size and weight of the power distribution equipment are still limited. The inline switchboard technology simplifies the switchboard arrangement to greatly decrease size, weight, and lifecycle cost. In summary, this will provide the Navy with technology that will result in \$0.25M/per year per destroyer/cruiser in maintenance savings plus an additional \$1 million per ship in overhaul savings. Additional savings are estimated in size and weight at 50 tons per ship and a space savings of 1000 sq.ft. Fuel savings due to the decreased weight are anticipated to be significant given the cost of fuel.